## **EXHIBIT 5**



## State or New Mampshire

ELECTRICIAN BOARD
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February 18, 2003

State of New Hampshire Dept. of Safety Building Code Review Board 10 Hazen Drive Concord, NH 03301

Re: Adoption of the 2002 National Electrical Code

## Dear Board Members:

I am writing on behalf of the Electricians Licensing Board (Board) to respectively request the Building Code Review Board adopt the 2002 National Electrical Code (NFPA 70-2002) (NEC) into the State Building Code replacing 1999 NEC.

The Board has adopted the 2002 NEC as part of its Administrative Rules with an effective date of July 1, 2002. The Board has adopted the most current version of the NEC on July 1 of the Code change year, each time a new version has been issued since the early 1980's.

The Board in no way intended to circumvent the adoption process through the newly formed Building Code Review Board. The Board adopted the 2002 NEC through the Joint Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules (JLCAR) as the State Building Code Review Board had not been officially formed at the time. As you know, the rule change process through JLCAR is lengthy and therefore the rule change adopting the 2002 NEC was submitted to JLCAR in January of 2002. The Board and its staff are looking forward to working with the Building Code Review Board in the future.

The fact that the Board has adopted the 2002 NEC, under RSA 319-C, and the State Building Fire Codes still reference the 1999 NEC has created confusion for installers, designers and enforcers. The Board's inspectors have received several calls asking whether the 1999 or the 2002 version of the NEC is applied in New Hampshire. Most often the callers have financial concerns as well as installation concerns.

The Electricians' Board is aware that the changes to RSA 319-C and the State Building Code itself would not allow the Board to adopt a less stringent Code. The 2002 NEC, for the most part, contains unchanged or more stringent rules than the 1999 NEC and therefore the Board's office has been enforcing the 2002 NEC where its licensees are concerned.

Quite often you have individuals licensed by the Board installing on the same job site as individuals who are exempted from the licensing requirement or individuals installing fire alarm and communication circuits which are not under the scope of RSA 319-C. Therefore, those licensed by the Board are installing to the more stringent rules in the 2002 NEC and those that are not licensed by the Board are required to install to the 1999 NEC. This has created confusion in the industry. Building Code Review Board adoption of the 2002 version of the NEC would establish a single electrical code for all purposes and will resolve the code compliance/enforcement problems currently existing

Please do not hesitate to contact me at my Concord office at 603-271-3206 if you have any questions.

Respectively Submitted,

Mark R. Hilbert

Senior Electrical Inspector

Monk & Helles